

# DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF A PERIOPERATIVE MEDICATION MANAGEMENT DECISION SUPPORT TOOL



Merdi Rafiei, PhD, CHDA

Terrence Adam, MD, PhD

HIMSS 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

Authors certify that they have no conflict of interest in creating or presenting this work

# Learning Objectives

3

- **Clinical decision support (CDSS) development**
- **CDSS maintenance**
- **Use of clinical heuristics**
- **Challenges of managing national drug formulary CDSS**

# Pre-operative Evaluation in a Nutshell

4

## •Established decisions on use of medications

1. Indication and need
  - I. Effect of stopping drug on primary disease
  - II. Rebound effect
  - III. Clinical deterioration
  - IV. Withdrawal
2. Drug pharmacokinetics & changes
3. Absorption, half-life, ROA
4. Potential adverse effects
  - I. Bleeding, hypoglycemia, ...
5. Appropriate management of pain
6. Administration of adjunctive medications
7. Use of appropriate formulations and alternative products when needed
8. Potential benefits of starting a drug prophylactically

## ❖ Hx

- Chief problem
- Surgery type
- Type of anesthesia

## ❖ PMH (allergies, co-morbidities, injuries, ...)

## ❖ Social Hx

- Problems with bleeding, anesthesia, ...

## ❖ Med. Recon.

## ❖ Physical exam

## ❖ Labs/tests

## ❖ Imaging reports

## ❖ A&P

- surgery risks
- effect of surgery on underlying disease(s)
- PMM

# Why Study PMM Informatics

- Medical decision making is difficult!
  - ▣ Substantial amount of knowledge required to solve even seemingly simple problems
  - ▣ Requires massive amounts of information recall and application
  - ▣ Cognitive ability becomes challenged
    - Multi-tasking
    - Limited reasoning
    - Memory capacity

# Why Study PMM Informatics

6

- Decision making is particularly challenging in perioperative medicine:
  - ▣ Recall of information and processing of clinical data spanning multiple clinical specialties
  - ▣ Knowledge of medication-related issues
    - Particularly challenging with patients who take several medications!
  - ▣ Need to close decision making loop to communicate results with patients to manage care transitions

# Why Study PMM Informatics

7

- Increasing Surgical Burden
  - Aging population with greater functional recovery expectations
  
- As many as 44% of patients undergoing surgery take medications prior to surgery<sup>1</sup>
  
- Half of the general surgical patients take medications unrelated to surgery<sup>2</sup>
  
- Increased RR (2.7 times) of post-operative complications in patients who take meds not related to surgery vs patients taking no meds<sup>2</sup>

1. Kluger MT et al. *Anaesthesia* ;46(6):456-9 (1991)

2. Kennedy JM et al. *Br J Clin Pharm.* 49, 353–362 (2000)

# Why Study PMM Informatics

8

- Medication errors contribute to patient morbidity and mortality<sup>1</sup>
- Ineffective care transition processes lead to adverse events<sup>2</sup>
- Although a general consensus exists for perioperative management of some medications, consensus is lacking for others<sup>4</sup>
  - Perioperative medication management decisions are often empirical and inconsistent among clinicians

1. Spell NO. *Med Clin N Am.* Jun;85(5):117-28. (2001)

2. Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, Report to the Congress: Reforming the Delivery System, Washington, D.C.: MedPAC, June 2008

3. Kroenke K. *S Med J* 91:358-364, (1998)



# Clinical Decision Support Systems

9

- Rule-Base (Expert System) CDSS
  - ▣ a special class of CDSS in which computer emulates the decision-making ability of a human expert.<sup>1</sup>
  - ▣ a “discipline that involves integrating knowledge into computer systems in order to solve complex problems
  - ▣ normally requires a high level of human expertise.”<sup>2</sup>

1. Jackson P. *Introduction to Expert Systems*. 3 ed: Addison-Wesley, 1998.

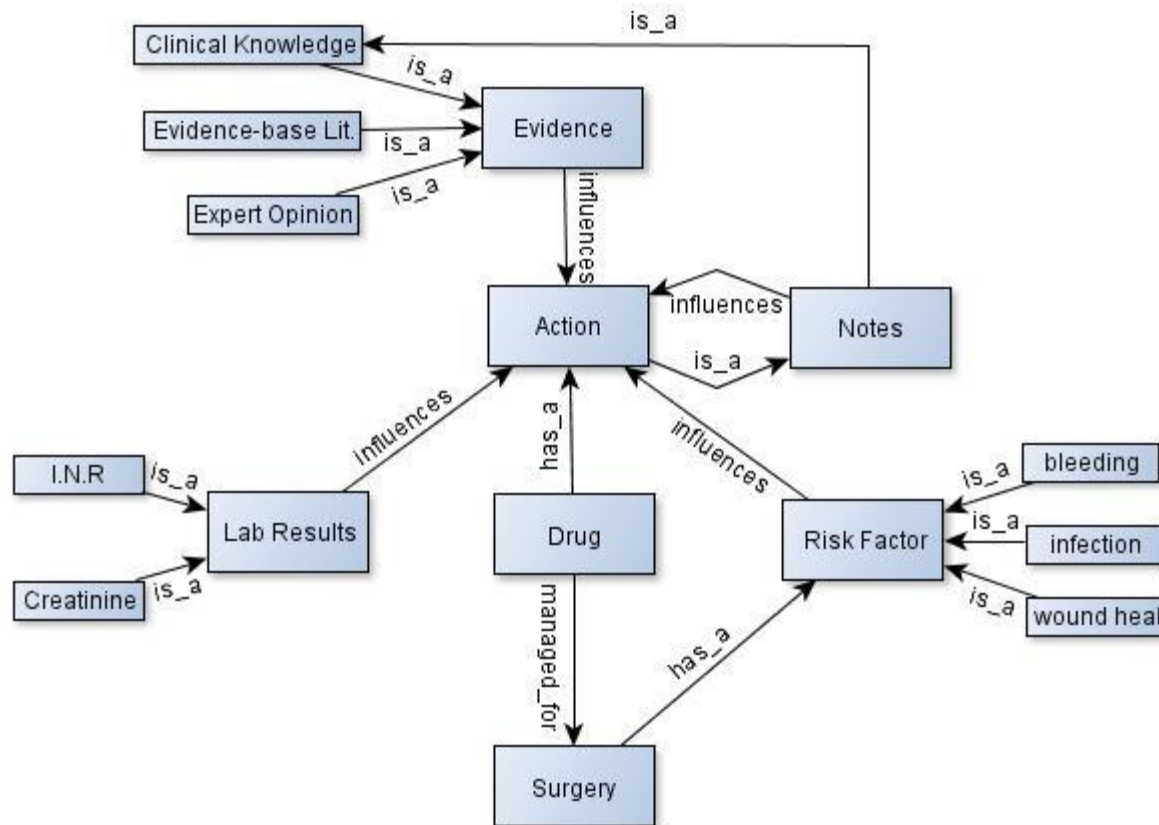
2. Feigenbaum EA, et al. *The Fifth Generation*. 1 ed. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 1983.

# Knowledge Discovery and Management

- Essential for developing a model to formally represent the PMM domain knowledge
- PMM ontology of concepts and relationships
  - ▣ Structural framework for use and organization of clinical information
  - ▣ Captures flow of information and data
  - ▣ Developed in consultation with two domain experts in internal medicine

# PMM Ontology

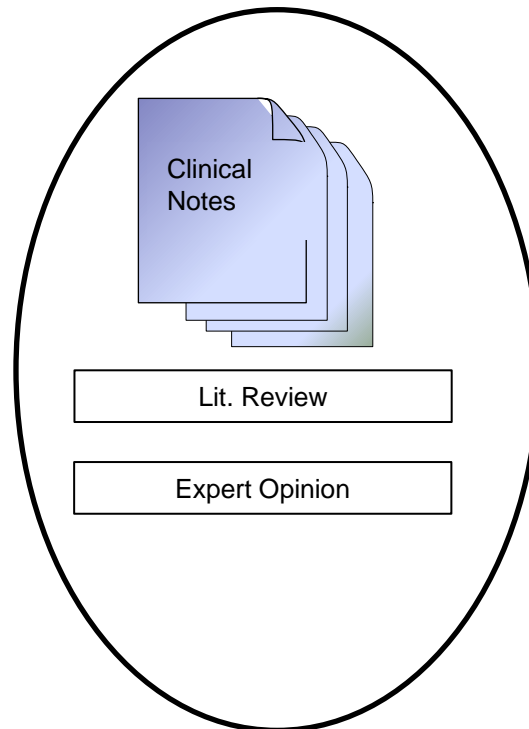
11



# Data Sources

## □ Clinical Notes

- 100 randomly-selected pre-op notes between 8/1/2010 and 7/31/2012
- Records originally created in CPRS EHR system
- De-identified
- Active outpatient meds and med. mgmt recommendations (actions)



# Sample Note

## Active Outpatient Medications

---

---

Key:  
Actionable drug  
Action

- 1) GABAPENTIN 300MG ...
- 2) GLIPIZIDE 10MG ...
- 3) SIMVASTATIN 80MG ...

### --Medication recommendations

Give the following meds with a sip of water AM of surgery:

gabapentin

Start holding glipizide the evening pre-op.

# Drug Classes & Categories



14

- Class source: VA's National Drug File (NDF), 6/2012 version
- Categories source: VA's Class Index File, 7/2012

1	TRADE	VA_PRODUCT	VA_CLASS
16423	COUMADIN	WARFARIN NA 2.5MG TAB	BL110
16424	PANWARFIN	WARFARIN NA 2.5MG TAB	BL110
16425	COUMADIN	WARFARIN NA 2.5MG TAB	BL110

BL110=Anticoagulants

# Heuristics Development



15

- Create PMM recommendations development dataset manually:
  - Age
  - Gender
  - Surgery type & risks
    - Bleeding (tooth extraction vs limb amputation)
    - Infection
    - Wound Heal
  - Active Meds
  - Creatinine
  - INR
  - Classes
  - Actions (recommendations/decision heuristics)



# Decision Heuristics (rules)

16

- Three domain experts (General Internists)
- One round of review
  - ▣ manual inspection of all drugs and actions in dataset
- Decision Criteria
  - ▣ Whether a drug is actionable, non-actionable, or unknown
  - ▣ Whether the action on a drug is the correct action
- Discrepancies noted and adjudicated





# Supported Decisions

17

- Decision in EHR matched decision by reviewers
- $\geq 80\%$  of the time

OR

- If  $< 80\%$  agreement, decision adjudicated by a 4<sup>th</sup> domain expert referee

OR

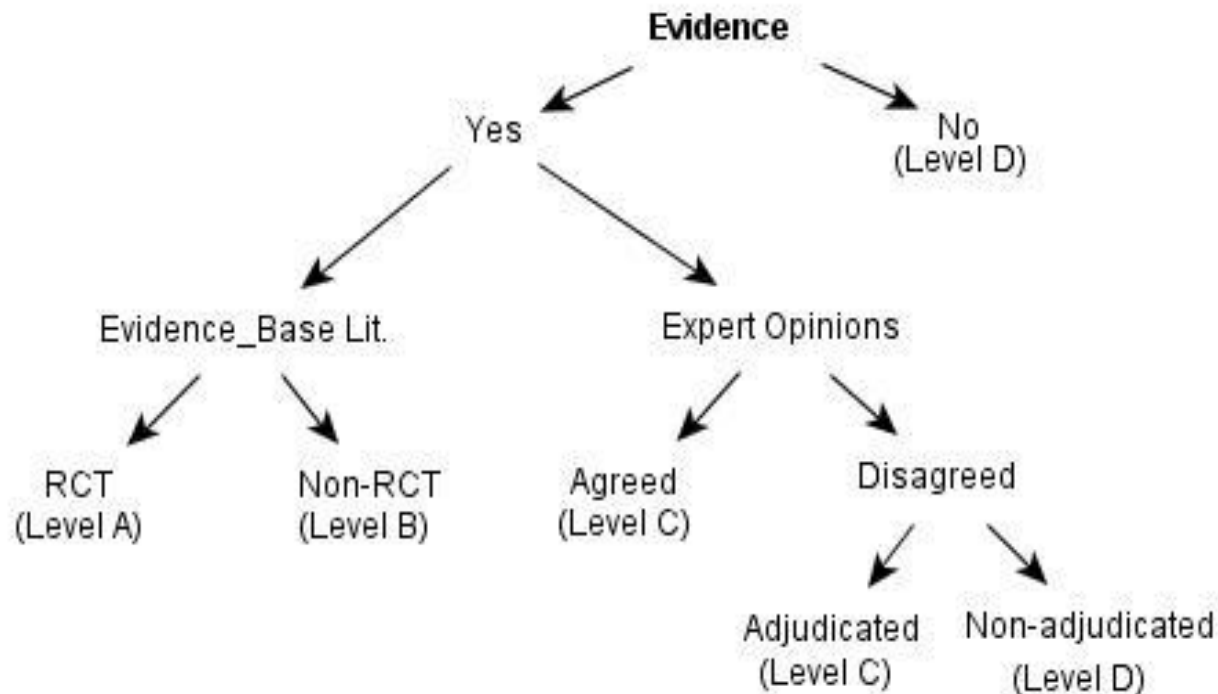
- Supporting evidence from E.B. literature



# Tiered Supporting Evidence

18

- drug action heuristics for the entire VA drug formulary based on a tiered supporting evidence structure





# Category-Level Recommendations

19

```

<drugclass>
  <id>AN300</id>
  <instructions>No action recommended</instructions>
  <exception>
    <drug>
      <name>METHOTREXATE NA 2.5MG TAB</name>
      <instructions>Safe to continue if normal
creatinine level, otherwise hold 7-14 days prior:<a
href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=11171680+172043
10";target=_newpage;> SUPPORTING EVIDENCE
</a><p>If minor surgery, safe to continue: <a
href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=20033813";t
arget=_newpage;> SUPPORTING EVIDENCE </a></p>
Evidence Level: B
      </instructions>
    </drug>
  </exception>
</drugclass>

```

**drug class** (AN300=ANTINEOPLASTICS, ANTIMETABOLITES)

**default recommendation**

**exception drug member**

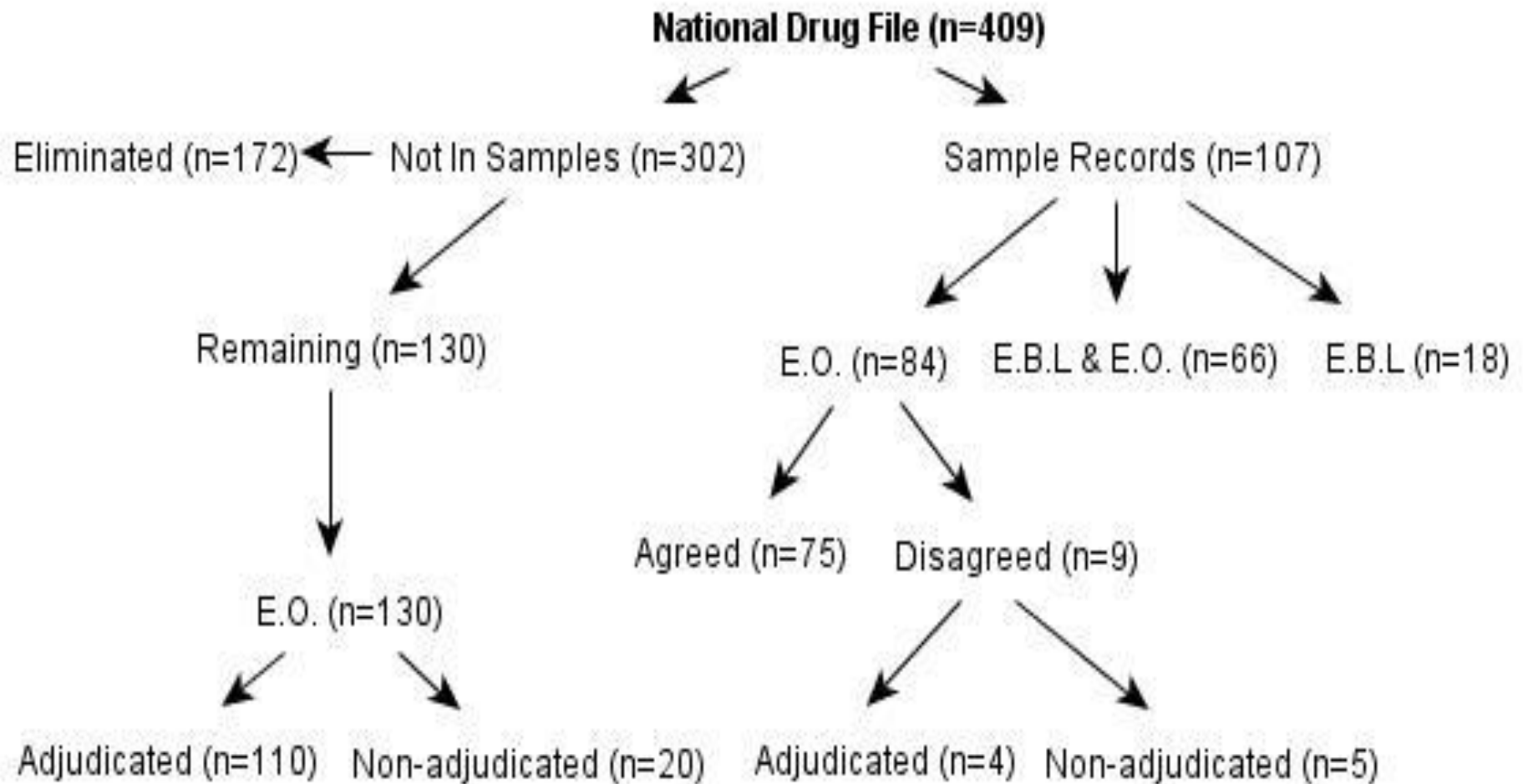
**exception recommendation**

**supporting evidence**

# Results

20

## Sources of supporting evidence (category-level)



# Results

21

- 1,065 rules
  - ▣ 237 category-level rules covering ~10,000 drugs
    - Formulary for largest healthcare delivery system in the US
  - ▣ 828 exception rules
  
- Tiered levels of supporting evidence: 1,830
  - ▣ Level A: 184 (RCT)
  - ▣ Level B: 1,358 (Non-RCT)
  - ▣ Level C: 285 (Expert opinions)
  - ▣ Level D: 25 (Non-adjudicated expert opinions)

# Decision Support Tool (PeriMed)

22

- Use the “rules” file developed in Study 1 as the inference engine to build the CDSS
- Test the accuracy of the CDSS against 100 (different) patient records in VistA/CPRS
  - ▣ Patients seen by our domain experts in Study 1 will be excluded (want the utility’s decisions to be bias-free)
- Compare utility’s output (actions) with domain expert opinions and measure % of recommendation matches

# PeriMed Design & Development

23

- Web-based
  - Javascript
  - HTML
  - Python (2.7)
  
- Platform-independent
  
- Vendor-independent

# Results

## PeriMed's performance on "clinically significant drugs"<sup>1</sup>

First-round testing: match frequency =76%



1. Misinterpretations identified; rules adjusted
2. Outright differences noted; adjudicator agreed with tool in 69% of cases

Second-round testing: match frequency =96%\*

\* Compares favorably with like CDSSs

1. Cohn SL, et al. *Perioperative Medicine : just the facts*: 2006



# Tool Demonstration

# Discussion

- Sample size (n=100) was adequate for empirically building a patient-based CDSS
  - ▣ 92% of clinically-significant medications represented in the sample
- Validation of the proof of concept can be expanded for patient use
  - ▣ Prospective identification of at-risk patients
  - ▣ Follow-up assessment after preoperative evaluation to insure appropriate use of medications
  - ▣ Potential for use in integrated screening work

# Discussion

- PeriMed possesses 3 key features associated with CDSS success<sup>1</sup>:
  - ▣ electronic rather than paper-based templates
  - ▣ provides decision support at the time and location of care rather than prior to or after the patient encounter
  - ▣ provides recommendations for care, not just assessments

# Contact Information

28

Merdi Rafiei, PhD, CHDA  
Assistant Professor & Director  
Health Informatics Graduate Program  
St. Catherine University  
601 25th Ave S | Minneapolis, MN 55454  
[mrafiei986@stkate.edu](mailto:mrafiei986@stkate.edu) 651-690-7852

Terrence Adam, MD, PhD, RPH  
Associate Professor & Staff Physician  
University of Minnesota, Department of Veterans Affairs  
Pharmaceutical Care and Health  
7-125E Weaver-Densford Hall  
308 Harvard St SE | Minneapolis, MN 55455  
[adamx004@umn.edu](mailto:adamx004@umn.edu) 612-625-5825

# Thank You!

29

□ Questions?